LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A storage medium comprising:

a storage device for storing information, an encryption key ~~required~~ for use in an encoding operation, and encoded information;

an input/output device for inputting and outputting information stored in said storage device, said encryption key, and the encoded information; and

an encoding device for encoding [[of]] information and decoding [[of]] encoded information,

wherein when outputting information stored inside said storage device to outside said storage medium, ~~along with obtaining information~~ the information is encoded by using said encryption key, said encryption key ~~used when encoding information~~ is encoded [[by]] using another encryption key that is part of a pair of asymmetrical keys unique to, and held in secret in, said storage medium, thereby to obtain an encoded encryption key, and both said encoded information and said encoded encryption key ~~information~~ are output.

2. (Original) A storage medium according to claim 1, wherein said input/output device, said encoding device, and said storage device are constituted on the same semiconductor chip.

3. (Currently Amended) A storage medium comprising:

a storage device for storing information, an encryption key ~~required~~ for use in an encoding operation, and encoded information;

an input/output device for inputting and outputting information stored in said storage device, said encryption key, and ~~encoding~~ the encoded information; and

an encoding device for encoding [[of]] information and decoding [[of]] encoded information,

wherein when outputting information stored inside said storage device to outside said storage ~~device,~~device: ~~along with obtaining information encoded by using said encryption key,~~

the information is encoded using said encryption key,

said encryption key ~~used when encoding information~~ is encoded by using another encryption key that is part of a pair of asymmetrical keys unique to, and held in secret in, said storage medium, thereby to obtain an encoded encryption key, and [[first,]]

only said encoded information is output, and

when a signal showing that the encoded information ~~was input~~ is ~~input from~~received by an external apparatus, said encoded encryption key is output after voiding said information stored in said storage device.

4.   (Original) A storage medium according to claim 3, wherein said input/output device, said encoding device, and said storage device are constituted on the same semiconductor chip.

5.   (Currently Amended) An information storage system comprising,

a storage medium ~~having;~~including a storage device for storing information, an encryption key ~~required~~for use in an encoding operation, and encoded information; an input/output device for inputting and outputting said information, said encryption key, and ~~encoding~~the encoded information stored in said storage device; and an encoding device for encoding [[of]] information and decoding [[of]] encoded information, and

an external apparatus ~~connected~~coupled to said storage medium,

3

~~wherein~~ wherein:

information to be sent to the external apparatus is encoded by utilizing [[an]] said

encryption key,

~~, and an encryption key utilized when encoding said information, are sent with an~~the

encryption key is encoded utilizing another encryption key that is part of a pair of asymmetrical

keys unique to, and held in secret in, said storage medium, and

the encoded information and the encoded encryption key are sent to, and stored in, ~~stored~~

~~in~~ said external apparatus, without the another encryption key.

6.   (Original) An information storage system according to claim 5, wherein said input/output

device, said encoding device, and said storage device are constituted on the same semiconductor

chip.

7.   (Currently Amended) An Information transfer system ~~comprising,~~comprising:

a storage medium ~~having~~including: a storage device for storing information, an

encryption key ~~required~~ for use in an encoding operation, and encoded information; an

input/output device for inputting and outputting information stored in said storage device, said

encryption key, and ~~encoding~~ the encoded information; and an encoding device for encoding

[[of]] information and decoding [[of]] encoded information, and

an external apparatus configured to receive information stored in said storage medium;

~~wherein~~ wherein:

when transferring said information to be sent to said external apparatus, apparatus said

encoded information is encoded [[by]] utilizing an said encryption key is sent to said external

apparatus, and

after receiving a signal showing said encoded information was received is received

[[from]] by said external apparatus, said information stored in said storage device is voided, and

an encoded encryption key that is generated by encoding the encryption key using another

encryption key that is part of a pair of asymmetrical keys unique to, and held in secret in, said

storage medium, is sent to [[an]] said external apparatus.

8.   (Original) An information transfer system according to claim 7, wherein said input/output

device, said encoding device, and said storage device are constituted on the same semiconductor

chip.